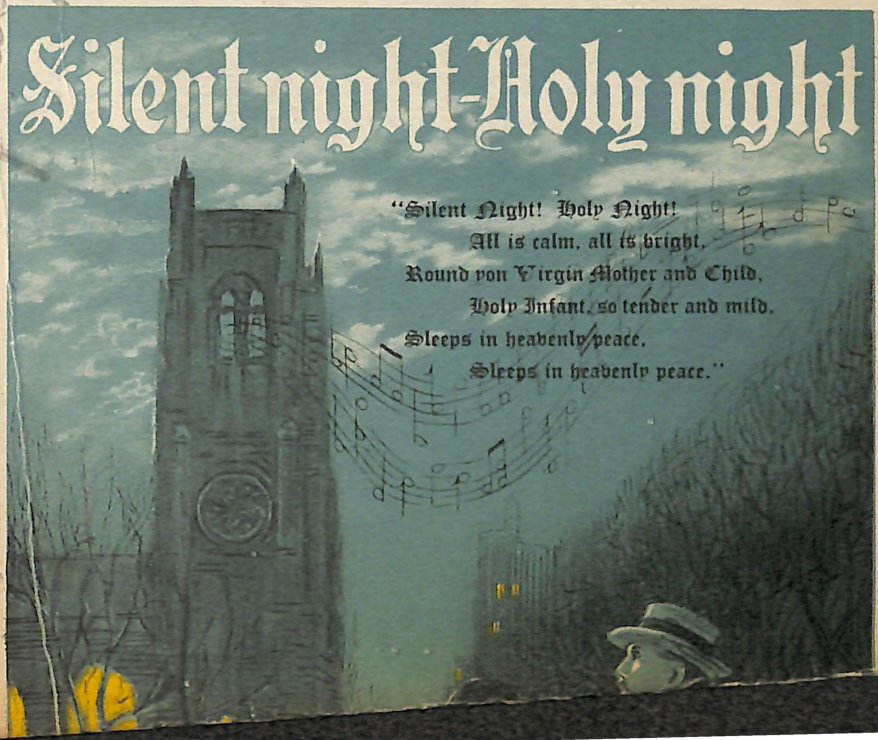
Silent night-Holy night


"Silent Night! Holy Night!
All is calm, all is bright,
Round von Virgin Mother and Child,
Holy Infant, so tender and mild.
Sleeps in heavenly peace,
Sleeps in heavenly peace."

Jer. 32:9 And I bot the field of Hanameel, my uncle's son, that was in Anathoth, and weighed him the money, even 17 sheckels of silver.

INTRO. Israelites chosen pepple of God thru whom to reveal Himself to the world

Because of the spiritual insight and preparation of the Jew

I wonder if not also because of the Jew's aptitude in matters of speculation, the Jewish proverbial instinct for a bargain.

Abraham a speculator- leaving everything and risking everything for the promise land. Later he bargained with God for the souls of Sodom.

The disciples leaving their nets to go int a new field of venture with Jesus- leaving their all and giving their all.

The daring of the Jew to take a long chance has played a larger part in God's use of him than we have given it credit.

Religion is thot of in our day too much in terms of "Safety First", with not a risk in it.

All life is largely a matter of taking a chance, running a risk, of venturing forth into the unknown and untried. Its very risks and uncertainties create the thrills of life that are so attractive. In everthing we do, in our buying and selling, in our planning and promoting, in all our undertakings we literally walk by faith

All our games are interesting to us largely because of the element of uncertainty in them.

Dr. Smith referred this a.am to religion as the great Game of Life. It strikes me that it would be strange indeed should this greatest game of all be entirely void of the element of chance, of venture, of thr thrill.

Donald Hankey's definition-"True religion is betting one's life that there is a God." Betting one's life; that is, staking one's all.

Now you are prepared to have our text presented to you Jeremiah's bet with his cousin Hanameel. Read.

Jerimiah thrown into prison by enemies. Anathoth, hi home town hated him, especially the members of his own family.

His cousin, Hanameel, visits Jerimiah in prison and

2. offers Jeremiah the family field in his home town of Anathoth for 19 sheckels(about $12.)

If he refused Jer. would be discredited

If he bot, it would be a good joke Jeremiah.

So Hanameel went his way and Jeremiah was left with his bad bargain. He had bet on his faith in God. He had put money on it.

Afterwards Jeremiah had his misgivings over his bargain.

When I bot my first watch.

But God revealed to Jeremiah just what would happe

I. Religion is a big venture- no man can be dead sure of God. To ask for definite guarantees in matters of religion when in all other walks of life you have to take a sporting chance, is to ask for the impossibl In matters of faith it is possible to win out, but it is also possible to lose out.

Look at the long chance the early Xns took. The apostles had no N.T., nor were they popularly received as they went from place to place.

The early Missionaries took long chances in their venture to win the heathen world to X. Judson bound and chained in a foul Burmese prison, was asked, "Now what ~~do you think~~ ~~about the prospect~~ of your Missionary enterprise?" As quick as a flash Judson replied," "They are as bright as the promises of God".

John Wanamaker ventured his faith by daring to advocate and practice the Golden Rule in business."

Are you prepared to bet your life that X is right? That his standard of living is the best for the world?

That it pays to be honest and upright, it pays to live unselfishing for the welfare of others, it pays to live and ~~to~~ breathe in the atmosphere of clean moral thinking and living.

Have you bot a field in Anathoth in the midst of the ene enemies of God, believeing that later on those enemies would be won over to God. Early temperance workers against the saloons.

Will you venture in your faith that where sin aboun ds the grace of God will much more abound?

Read Jer.31;33